

Rep. Martin Howrylak (District 41)

From: Raise the Age MI <RaiseTheAgeMI@truscottrossman.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 27, 2018 1:08 PM
To: Raise the Age MI
Subject: Voters overwhelmingly support 'Raising the Age' in Michigan
Attachments: RTApollingresultsMRG.pdf



Dear Representative,

Michigan voters – regardless of where they live or what their political affiliation may be – are strongly behind you passing Raise the Age legislation this year.

A poll by MRG earlier this year found that nearly **70 percent** of those polled felt that 17-year-olds should not be automatically prosecuted as adults. When voters were given more information about the issue, that number increased to **85 percent** support for Raise the Age! *(See below and attached for full details.)*

Some of that information you already may know, such as:

- Judges and prosecutors can still charge them as adults for the most serious crimes or if they feel it's warranted;
- Staying in the juvenile system allows them to receive critical age-appropriate rehabilitation services which are not available in the adult corrections system.
- Juveniles leaving the adult system are 34 percent more likely to re-offend and escalate to more serious crimes than their peers with similar offenses in the juvenile system; and
- Juveniles incarcerated in adult facilities are at greater risk of physical and sexual abuse and suicide.

We urge you to make this a priority during lame duck this year. Help our youth and communities while bringing Michigan in line the 46 other states in the country who have already acted to Raise the Age.

(The Raise the Age package of bills includes: HBs 4607, 4653, 4659, 4662, 4664, 4675-4678, 4685, 4696, 4741, 4744, 4753, 4793, 4969, 5637, and 6396).

More info at:



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CATHOLIC
CONFERENCE**

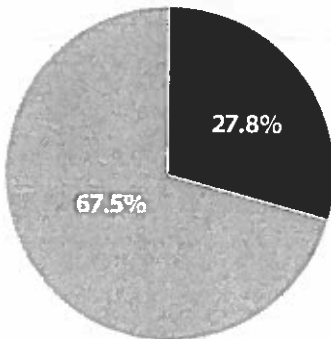
According to a Recent Statewide Poll

Voters Overwhelmingly Support Raise the Age Legislation

Voters Disagree with Current Treatment of 17 Year-Olds

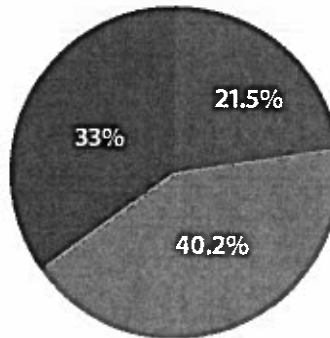
"Michigan law requires every 17 year-old arrested for a crime be charged as an adult, without exception. This includes arrests for everything from underage drinking and loitering to the most serious crimes like murder. Do you agree or disagree that every 17 year-old should automatically be prosecuted in the adult criminal justice system?"

Overall Responses to Poll



- Disagree that every 17 year-old should automatically be prosecuted as an adult
- Agree that every 17 year-old should automatically be prosecuted as an adult

Party Affiliation for Poll



- Republican
- Democrat
- Independent

Geographical Responses to Poll

City of Detroit	84%	16%
Balance of Wayne County	59%	33%
Oakland County	74%	21%
Macomb County	70%	28%
Livingston, Washtenaw & Monroe	79%	17%
West Michigan	69%	25%
Tri-Cities / Thumb Area	57%	40%
Northern Lower Michigan	61%	35%

- Disagree that every 17 year-old should automatically be prosecuted as an adult
- Agree that every 17 year-old should automatically be prosecuted as an adult

Gender Responses to Poll

Male	67%	28%
Female	68%	27%

Polling Details

This survey was conducted by Marketing Resource Group and commissioned by Michigan Catholic Conference. It sampled 600 likely Michigan general election voters and has a statistical margin of error of +/- 4%. The survey was conducted March 10-13, 2018 with 30% of interviews via cell phone and 70% via landline.

Support for Raise the Age Legislation Greatly Increases with Messaging

"Currently, Michigan is one of only five states left in the country that automatically charges all 17-year-olds as adults. I'm going to read to you some reasons people give to **change** the law to keep **most** 17-year-olds in the juvenile justice system **unless** a judge or prosecutor chooses to charge them as an adult in cases of the most serious crimes. For each item, please tell me if it makes you more likely or less likely to support changing the law to give prosecutors and judges more choice."

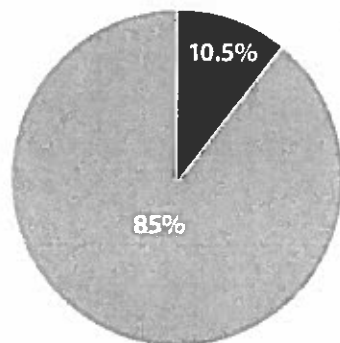
Answers read in random order

	Much More Likely	Somewhat More Likely	No Difference	Somewhat Less Likely	Much Less Likely	Don't Know	Refused
Most 17-year-olds should be charged as juveniles unless a judge or prosecutor decides to charge them as an adult based on the seriousness of the crime.	44.8%	26.0%	11.5%	8.2%	6.8%	2.5%	0.2%
Juveniles leaving the adult system are 34 percent more likely to re-offend and escalate to violent behavior than are their peers with similar offenses leaving the juvenile justice system.	36.5%	25.3%	13.5%	13.2%	6.5%	4.8%	0.2%
Keeping 17-year-olds in the juvenile justice system allows them to receive age-appropriate rehabilitation services that are not available in the adult corrections system.	52.2%	23.7%	7.3%	7.5%	6.7%	2.3%	0.3%
Juveniles incarcerated in adult facilities are at greater risk of becoming victims of sexual and physical abuse and suicide.	57.2%	19.7%	8.8%	6.2%	6.3%	1.8%	—
The majority of those arrested will return to our communities. Focusing on rehabilitation is an investment in our public safety.	43.7%	30.3%	11.8%	5.7%	5.3%	2.7%	0.5%
Research shows that the 17-year-old brain is still developing.	49.7%	22.7%	11.5%	7.3%	6.3%	2.5%	—
Michigan is one of only 5 states that still requires 17-year-olds to be charged as adults.	39.3%	21.0%	17.3%	9.2%	9.0%	4.2%	—
Receiving services in the juvenile justice system, rather than jail or prison, increases the likelihood that a 17-year-old will complete school and go on to be a contributing taxpayer.	51.5%	26.2%	8.2%	5.5%	5.7%	3.0%	—
Only by treating 17-year-olds as minors in the juvenile justice system are parents guaranteed the right to participate in their child's legal proceedings. Parents deserve this right.	51.5%	21.8%	11.2%	7.0%	6.5%	1.7%	0.3%
17-year-olds treated by the juvenile justice system would avoid a criminal record, significantly increasing their opportunities for future employment.	53.5%	22.2%	8.8%	6.5%	6.3%	2.7%	—
Raising the age to 18 for mandatory adult prosecution will create long-term savings to taxpayers by avoiding serial incarceration.	41.7%	25.8%	13.8%	9.0%	6.8%	2.8%	—

"Now, knowing this information, would you support or oppose legislation to keep most 17-year-olds in the juvenile justice system while giving prosecutors and judges a choice to prosecute 17-year-olds accused of the most serious crimes as either adults or juveniles based on the 17-year-old's record and the chance of successful rehabilitation?"

Strongly Support	Somewhat Support	Neither Support / Oppose	Somewhat Oppose	Strongly Oppose	Don't Know	Refused
60.5%	24.5%	1.7%	3.8%	6.5%	2.7%	0.3%

Responses After Messaging



Support raise the age legislation
Oppose raise the age legislation